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Letter dated 26 February 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a report on the work of the Security Council during the presidency of China in January 2010 (see annex). The document was prepared under my own responsibility, following consultations with other members of the Security Council. I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Liu **Zhenmin**
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Annex to the letter dated 26 February 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of China (January 2010)

Introduction

Under the presidency of China in January 2010, the Security Council went through an extensive programme of work. During the month, the Council dealt with a wide range of regional issues, including Côte d'Ivoire, Somalia, the Sudan, Afghanistan, Nepal, the Middle East, Kosovo, Haiti, peace consolidation in West Africa, and the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia.

During the month, the Security Council held 21 meetings, of which 12 were public, including a thematic debate on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security, a debate on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo and an open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. The Council held eight closed consultations of the whole and one private meeting with countries contributing troops to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire. The Council adopted four resolutions and produced one presidential statement and three statements to the press.

Africa

Côte d'Ivoire

On 14 January, the Council held a private meeting with countries contributing troops to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), during which the participants heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire, Choi Young-Jin. The briefing was followed by an exchange of views.

On 21 January, at an open meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the latest developments in the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire. At the consultations of the whole that followed, the Council members commended efforts made by UNOCI for promoting the proper resolution of challenges faced by Côte d'Ivoire, and called on parties concerned in Côte d'Ivoire to fully implement the Ouagadougou Agreement.

On 28 January, members of the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1911 (2010), by which it renewed the mandate of UNOCI until 31 May 2010.

Sudan

On 26 January, the Council held consultations of the whole on the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS), during which the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Alain Le Roy, briefed the Council on the latest developments in the peace process in the Sudan as well as the work of UNMIS.

Members of the Council expressed their strong support for the full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and encouraged UNMIS and the international community to support the Sudanese parties in this regard. Some members discussed the importance of the protection of civilians, as well as for UNMIS to develop contingency plans as the April elections approach, and to begin thinking of the future United Nations presence after the referendums to be held in 2011.

Somalia

On 14 January, the Council held a public meeting and heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS), Ahmedou Ould-Abdallah, on the situation in Somalia. The Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union Commission, Ramtane Lamamra; the Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States, Yahya Mahmassani; and the Permanent Representative of Somalia, Elmi Ahmed Duale; also made statements. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General stressed that the international community should overcome two main challenges in Somalia, namely, (a) the absence of concrete commitment and determined international policy and (b) the delay in translating international support into the necessary material assistance. He proposed that the international community support a common policy objective in the context of the Djibouti Peace Agreement, and that the Council send a strong and clear signal to the extremists by strengthening the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia in a practical manner. He also highlighted the importance of working closely with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, the African Union, the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. In the consultations of the whole that followed, members of the Council exchanged views on the situation in Somalia. They expressed their concern about the grave security situation in Somalia and reaffirmed their support to the work of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

On 28 January, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1910 (2010), by which it extended the mandate of AMISOM until 31 January 2011 and requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide a logistical support package for AMISOM called for by resolution 1863 (2009).

Peace consolidation in West Africa

On 12 January, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA), Said Djinnit, on the latest developments in West Africa and the work of UNOWA. He noted that while there had been improvements in West Africa in the areas of conflict prevention, recovery and peacebuilding, a number of challenges still remained, such as election-related instability, natural disasters, security sector reform, drug trafficking and organized crimes. The Special Representative also briefed the Council on the situation in Guinea. He warned that the crisis in Guinea could spill over to the subregion if left unaddressed. The briefing was followed by consultations of the whole, during which members of the Council had an exchange of views on the challenges facing the subregion and Guinea. Members of the Council expressed their concern about the situation in West Africa and Guinea. They reaffirmed their support to UNOWA to continue its active role in coordinating the

international community to provide assistance to West Africa. Members of the Council also expressed their support for the good offices of the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States in Guinea, and called upon the Guinean authorities and all parties to solve the current disputes through dialogue and consultation.

Burundi

On 15 January, the Council held informal consultations and heard a briefing by the Director of the Africa Division of the Department of Political Affairs, Joao Honwana, on the latest developments in Burundi. Members of the Council had an exchange of views following the briefing. They commended the contribution made by the outgoing Executive Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi and the work of the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB). They appreciated the important role of BINUB in supporting the electoral cycle and underlined the importance of close cooperation between Burundi and the new Executive Representative of the Secretary-General, who was still to be appointed. After the consultations of the whole, the President made a statement to the press.

Asia

Afghanistan

On 6 January, the Council held a debate on Afghanistan, during which the Secretary-General and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan, Kai Eide, briefed the Council on the situation in Afghanistan.

The Secretary-General stated that Afghanistan had reached a "critical juncture" and called on the Government of Afghanistan and the international community to make the best possible use of the coming months to focus on agreed priorities, with a better international coordination structure under a United Nations umbrella that would enable the Government of Afghanistan to meet the principal needs of delivering security and services to the Afghan people and developing an economy that could gradually carry more responsibility for the people's well-being. The Secretary-General and his Special Representative expressed their appreciation for the achievements in Afghanistan, and cautioned about the challenges ahead. They noted the importance of better coordination among all parties. Members of the Council expressed their concern about the security situation in Afghanistan, and stressed the importance of the efforts made by the Government of Afghanistan in security capacity-building, and civil and economic reconstruction. They also called upon the international community to continue its support to those efforts.

Nepal

On 15 January, the Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal and Head of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), Karin Landgren, briefed the Council on the latest situation in Nepal and the work of UNMIN. In the consultations of the whole that followed, members of the Council exchanged views on the peace process in Nepal. They welcomed the recent positive developments in Nepal and reiterated the need for all parties to continue their efforts to take the peace process forward and to facilitate the completion of outstanding aspects of the UNMIN mandate by 15 May 2010.

On 21 January, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1909 (2010), by which it extended the mandate of UNMIN until 15 May 2010.

Europe

Kosovo

On 22 January, the Council held a debate on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), during which the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMIK, Lamberto Zannier, briefed the Council on the situation in Kosovo and the work of UNMIK. He noted that Kosovo had largely been peaceful and stable, although tensions remained in the north. He stressed that UNMIK continued to perform its functions under resolution 1244 (1999) and its overriding objective remained ensuring lasting security, stability and respect for human rights in Kosovo and the region. The President of Serbia, Boris Tadic, and Skender Hyseni from Kosovo made statements. Members of the Council exchanged views on the situation in Kosovo and reaffirmed their support for the work of UNMIK.

Middle East

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 27 January, the Council held an open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, during which the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Oscar Fernandez-Tarranco, briefed the Council on the recent developments in the region. He expressed concern about the lack of significant progress towards a solution to the peace process and recent events on the ground. He confirmed the Secretary-General's support for resumption of talks and his call for a freeze of settlement activity, which was echoed by the majority of delegations that addressed the Council after the briefing. The Permanent Observer of Palestine, the Permanent Representative of Israel, members of the Council and 25 other speakers addressed the Council. Most participants expressed their concern for the current impasse in the peace process and called for an early resumption of talks between the concerned parties. They also restated their grave concern at the humanitarian situation in Gaza and called for full implementation of Council resolution 1860 (2009), with many speakers stressing the need for the immediate opening of Gaza's border crossings in accordance with international humanitarian law, and the urgency of reconstruction. The majority of speakers called on Israel to end its settlement activity, including in East Jerusalem, and to refrain from all actions that might prejudge the outcome of the final negotiations. In this regard many speakers also stressed the need to resolve the status of Jerusalem as the future capital of two States. Most speakers reiterated their support for a two-State solution under relevant Security Council resolutions, thus contributing to the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and Arab-Israeli conflicts, and the ultimate attainment of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Regarding Lebanon, most members of the Council reiterated their call for a full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions.

Americas

Haiti

On 13 January, members of the Council observed a moment of silence for the victims who lost their lives in the devastating earthquake that hit Haiti on 12 January. In a statement to the press read out by the President, members of the Council conveyed their deepest sympathy and solidarity to all those affected by the earthquake. They expressed strong support for the Government and the people of Haiti and for international efforts to assist Haiti. Council members expressed their deepest gratitude for the work of the staff and troops of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH). They highly commended Member States' efforts to assist in search-and-rescue efforts and urged the international community to continue such assistance in the months ahead.

On 18 January, during urgent consultations of the whole, the Council heard a briefing from the Secretary-General on the situation in Haiti in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. The Secretary-General expressed deep concern about the catastrophic consequences of the earthquake and proposed an increase in the force level of MINUSTAH to support the significant recovery and stabilization efforts. Members of the Council expressed sorrow for the tragic loss of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Hédi Annabi, his deputy, Carlos Costa, and many other United Nations personnel. Council members offered their deep sympathy and solidarity to the Government and people of Haiti. They also articulated their deepest gratitude for the work of MINUSTAH and other United Nations agencies. Members of the Council welcomed the proposal by the Secretary-General and supported a strengthened MINUSTAH in the current critical situation. They urged further cooperation and coordination in assisting Haiti in its recovery and reconstruction process. After the meeting, the President of the Council delivered a statement to the press expressing the Council's support for the proposal of the Secretary-General to increase the overall level of MINUSTAH to support the immediate recovery and stability efforts in Haiti.

On 19 January, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1908 (2010), by which the force level of MINUSTAH was strengthened by a total of 3,500, comprising 2,000 troops and 1,500 police.

Thematic debate

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

On 13 January, the Council held a thematic debate on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security. The Secretary-General briefed the Council on the latest cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations and the conclusions of the Secretary-General's retreat with heads of regional and other organizations on 11 and 12 January 2010. Representatives of the League of Arab States, the African Union, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization of American States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

the Pacific Islands Forum and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization participated in the debate and made statements. A presidential statement (S/PRST/2010/1) was adopted as the outcome of the debate, in which the Council expressed its intention to consider further steps to promote closer and more operational cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the fields of conflict early warning, prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and to ensure the coherence, synergy and collective effectiveness of their efforts. In the statement, the Council also underlined the importance of utilizing the capabilities of regional and subregional organizations in the peaceful settlement of local disputes, including through encouraging countries in the region to resolve differences peacefully through dialogue, reconciliation, consultation, negotiation, good offices, mediation and judicial settlement of disputes.

Other matters

United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

On 14 January, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, Miroslav Jenca, on the work of the Centre. Members of the Council exchanged views during consultations of the whole. In a statement to the press read out by the President of the Council after the meeting, members of the Council expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Centre to assist countries of Central Asia in responding to challenges in the region, and encouraged further cooperation and coordination between the Centre and the Governments of the region and relevant regional organizations in this regard. Members of the Council also reaffirmed their support for the efforts of the Centre to facilitate dialogue and assist the Governments of Central Asia on regional issues of common concern.